

ILLINOIS FARM REPORT



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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HIGHLIGHTS

MILK PRODUCTION
LAYERS & EGG PRODUCTION
CROPPING PRACTICES
AGRICULTURAL PRICES
FARM LABOR

THIS FARM REPORT CONTAINS THE RESULTS FROM
THESE SURVEYS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP.

November & December Milk Production
November Layers & Egg Production
November Prices Received
October Farm Labor

MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production in Illinois during October 2007 totaled 153 million pounds, down four percent from last year. November production decreased three percent from last year to 151 million pounds of milk. The number of milk cows on farms averaged 103,000 head for both months, the same as last year. Milk per cow was down four percent from last year for the month of October to 1,490 pounds and was down three percent from last year to 1,470 pounds for November.

Estimated milk production in the U.S. was up three percent from the same months last year. October milk production was 15.4 billion pounds and November was 15.0 billion pounds. Production per cow increased in both months; up 46 pounds from last October averaging 1,677 pounds and up 40 pounds from last November averaging 1,634 pounds. The number of milk cows on farms in the U.S. was 9.17 million head in October and 9.18 in November. This year there were 62,000 head more than October 2006 and 64,000 head more than November 2006.

MILK PRODUCTION: ILLINOIS & UNITED STATES, OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2006-2007

		October					
		Illinois			United States		
		2006	2007	2007 as % of 2006	2006	2007	2007 as % of 2006
Milk Production:							
Number of milk cows	Head (000)	103	103	100	9,107	9,169	101
Milk production per cow	Lbs.	1,550	1,490	96	1,631	1,677	103
Total milk production	Mil. lbs.	160	153	96	14,857	15,376	103
		November					
Milk Production:							
Number of milk cows	Head (000)	103	103	100	9,111	9,175	101
Milk production per cow	Lbs.	1,510	1,470	97	1,594	1,634	103
Total milk production	Mil. lbs.	156	151	97	14,523	14,989	103

LAYERS & EGG PRODUCTION

LAYERS & EGG PRODUCTION, ILLINOIS & UNITED STATES, SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER, 2006-2007

		Illinois					
		September		October		November 1/	
		2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
Average Number of Layers on hand (thousand)		5,076	5,115	5,053	5,169	5,131	5,156
Eggs produced (million)		115	116	121	130	118	121
		United States					
Average Number of Layers on hand (thousand)		343,147	339,841	344,538	341,494	346,936	342,905
Eggs produced (million)		7,430	7,370	7,678	7,699	7,549	7,511

1/ Preliminary.

CROPPING PRACTICES

Each year the Illinois Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service conducts a survey in randomly selected corn and soybean fields throughout the state. Counts and measurements are made by enumerators during monthly visits to these plots. From late July through harvest, the data collected provides information on crop development and yield prospects throughout the growing season.

Information in the following tables represents rounded sample data averages from this survey and are subject to sampling variations. These numbers are intended to show trends in corn and soybean production practices.

CORN

In 2007, the row width of corn for grain in Illinois averaged 30.6 inches, three-tenths of an inch wider than the row width recorded last year. The average row spacing continued the decreasing trend with 78.4 percent of the acreage in the 20.6 - 30.5 inch row spacing category.

Plant population of corn for grain in Illinois was a record breaking 28,100 plants per acre. This breaks the record attained the last two years. The number of ears per acre, at 27,750 was up 350 from last year and breaks the record high of 27,400 first realized in 2004 and again last year.

CORN FOR GRAIN: PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION BY ROW WIDTH & AVERAGE ROW WIDTH, ILLINOIS, 2003-2007

Year	Number of samples	Row width (inches)						Average row Width
		20.5 or less	20.6 - 30.5	30.6 - 34.5	34.6 - 36.5	36.6 - 38.5	38.6 & greater	
	Number	Percent of samples						Inches
2003	268	0.7	75.8	12.3	6.7	4.1	0.4	30.7
2004	275	0.7	84.1	9.8	3.6	1.8	--	30.4
2005	281	1.4	82.5	9.3	3.2	3.6	--	30.3
2006	277	1.4	84.9	9.0	3.6	1.1	--	30.3
2007	273	0.7	78.4	13.9	5.1	1.5	0.4	30.6

CORN FOR GRAIN: AVERAGE PLANT POPULATION & EARS PER ACRE, ILLINOIS, 2003-2007

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Number of plants	27,050	27,700	28,000	28,000	28,100
Number of ears	26,650	27,400	26,850	27,400	27,750

SOYBEANS

The average row width of soybeans in Illinois was 17.6 inches in 2007, one inch wider than last year. The most common row width category was

the 10.1 - 18.5 inch, accounting for 54.2 percent of the acreage.

SOYBEANS: PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION BY ROW WIDTH & AVERAGE ROW WIDTH, ILLINOIS, 2003-2007

Year	Number of samples	Row width (inches)					Average row 1/ width
		10.0 or less 1/	10.1 - 18.5	18.6 - 28.5	28.6 - 34.5	34.6 & greater	
	Number	Percent of samples					Inches
2003	202	35.4	46.2	3.5	13.9	1.0	15.2
2004	219	32.2	49.6	2.7	14.4	1.1	15.3
2005	220	24.5	55.7	3.4	15.5	0.9	16.1
2006	215	20.2	58.8	2.1	18.4	0.5	16.6
2007	219	19.5	54.2	3.9	20.1	2.3	17.6

1/ Broadcast soybeans included as "10.0 inches and less" but excluded in computation of average width.

SOYBEANS: AVERAGE NUMBER OF PODS WITH BEANS PER 18 SQUARE FEET, ILLINOIS, 2003-2007

Month	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
September	1,800	2,070	1,973	2,035	1,923
October	1,606	1,923	1,820	1,890	1,796
November	1,634	1,943	1,858	1,923	1,818
Final	1,634	1,947	1,858	1,923	N/A

N/A Not available.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES

The November index of prices received by Illinois farmers for all commodities was 158 percent of the base, up nine points from the revised October figure and 30 points above November 2006. The current year's base was computed by multiplying the average production for the five-year period by the average price for each year. These five years were summed and then divided by five to arrive at an average (base) for the period. The current five-year average production was then multiplied by the current price and divided by the average for the five years to arrive at the current index. The November All Crops index, at 172 percent of the base, was up 12 points from the revised October number and 41 points above November 2006. Crop prices increased for all commodities except for wheat. The All Livestock index was at 110 percent of the base, down one point from the revised October number and five points below November 2006. Prices for calves increased, steers and heifers remained steady, while all other commodities decreased. The hog-corn ratio was at 10.7.

The U.S. preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in November, at 143 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased two points from October. The Crop Index was up two points and the Livestock Index increased three points. Producers received higher commodity prices for soybeans, eggs, corn, and broilers and lower prices were received for lettuce, hogs, cattle, and broccoli. The overall index was also affected by the seasonal change based on a three-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of milk, cattle, cotton, and cottonseed offset decreased marketings of soybeans, peanuts, potatoes, and lettuce.

INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

Commodity	Oct. 2006	Nov. 2006	Oct. 2007	Nov. 15, 2007
<u>ILLINOIS</u>		2000-2004=100	2001-2005=100	
All Farm Products	118	128	149 *	158
All Crops	119	131	160 *	172
Food grains	136	142	212 *	196
Feed grains/hay	126	143	159 *	172
Soybeans	108	114	158 *	170
All Livestock	114	115	111 *	110
Meat animals	116	115	104 *	102
Dairy products	103	110	145 *	150
<u>UNITED STATES</u>		1990-92=100		
All Farm Products	115	119	141 *	143
All Crops	114	122	148 *	150
Food grains	152	152	236 *	241
Feed grains/hay	116	129	149 *	156
Oilseeds	95	108	144 *	165
All Livestock	116	116	132 *	135
Meat animals	118	112	118 *	115
Dairy products	104	106	164 *	165
Prices Paid	148	148	160 *	161
Parity Ratio 1/	78	80	88 *	89

1/ Prices received index divided by prices paid index.

* Revised.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/

Commodity	Unit	Illinois				United States			
		Oct. 2006	Nov. 2006	Oct. 2007	Nov. 15, 2007	Oct. 2006	Nov. 2006	Oct. 2007	Nov. 15, 2007
		Dollars							
Corn	Bushels	2.62	3.01	3.31 *	3.60	2.55	2.88	3.29 *	3.49
Soybeans	Bushels	5.65	6.11	8.65 *	9.50	5.52	6.08	8.36 *	9.48
Sorghum	Cwt.	3/	5.73	6.42 *	6.50	5.16	5.83	6.18 *	6.22
Wheat, all	Bushels	4.09	4.42	6.68 *	6.40	4.59	4.59	7.65 *	7.92
Oats	Bushels	3/	3/	3/	3/	1.77	2.05	2.44 *	2.35
Hay, all baled	Tons	96.00	98.00	128.00	131.00	109.00	109.00	133.00 *	131.00
Alfalfa hay, bld	Tons	102.00	104.00	137.00	140.00	113.00	110.00	137.00 *	135.00
Other hay, bld	Tons	76.00	80.00	102.00	107.00	101.00	106.00	122.00 *	123.00
Hogs, all	Cwt.	46.90	45.20	41.50 *	38.60	46.50	44.90	42.10 *	38.50
Barrows, Gilts	Cwt.	48.00	46.20	42.80 *	39.80	46.90	45.30	42.80 *	39.00
Sows	Cwt.	34.80	34.00	26.00	25.00	36.90	35.40	27.50 *	26.50
Beef cattle	Cwt.	87.20	85.20	91.10	91.00	88.20	84.40	90.60 *	89.30
Cows	Cwt.	47.00	46.00	48.50 *	44.00	46.00	43.60	46.60 *	43.60
Steers, Heifers	Cwt.	88.00	86.00	92.00	92.00	93.70	90.00	96.40 *	95.40
Calves	Cwt.	115.00	108.00	107.00 *	110.00	128.00	119.00	122.00 *	118.00
Milk cows	Head	1,650.00	2/	1,970.00	2/	1,650.00	2/	2,020.00 *	2/
Milk, all	Cwt.	14.70	14.90	22.00 *	21.80	13.60	13.90	21.40 *	21.60
Milk, fluid	Cwt.	14.70	14.90	22.00	3/	13.60	13.90	21.40 *	21.70
Milk, mfg.	Cwt.	14.30	14.50	20.80	3/	13.00	13.70	19.70 *	20.20
Hog-corn ratio		17.9	15.0	12.5 *	10.7	18.2	15.6	12.8 *	11.0

1/ Prices received represents the average of all grades or classes at point of first sale and should not be confused with market quotations.

2/ Estimated in January, April, July and October.

3/ State prices not published.

* Revised.

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FARM LABOR

HIRED WORKERS: NUMBER & HOURS WORKED, BY REGIONS, OCTOBER 7-13, 2007 1/

Hired				
REGION 2/	Number of workers	Expected to be employed		Number of hours worked
		150 days or more	149 days or less	
		Thousands		Hours per week
LAKE	67	42	25	38.9
CORNBELT I	50	33	17	42.7
CORNBELT II	23	19	4	41.0
U.S.	806	590	216	42.1

HIRED WORKERS: WAGE RATES FOR TYPE OF WORKERS & ALL HIRED WORKERS, BY REGIONS, OCTOBER 7-13, 2007 1/

REGION 2/	Type of worker			Wage rates for all hired workers
	Field	Livestock	Field & livestock combined	
			Dollars per hour	
LAKE	10.75	10.64	10.70	11.30
CORNBELT I	10.24	9.75	10.10	10.60
CORNBELT II	10.69	10.90	10.80	11.25
U.S.	9.62	9.98	9.72	10.33

1/ Excludes agricultural service workers.

2/ Regions consist of the following: LAKE: MI, MN, WI; CORNBELT I: IL, IN, OH; CORNBELT II: IA, MO; UNITED STATES: Excludes Alaska.

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